

Remarks

These Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed January 5, 2005. Claims 1-21 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. No claims are currently being amended, canceled or added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1-10, 15-17 and 19-21 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/074,096. The Examiner also provisionally rejected claims 1-10, 15-17 and 19-21 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/074,347. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with these rejections, Applicants are filing a Terminal Disclaimer herewith to expedite issuance of the claims. Accordingly, claims 1-10, 15-17 and 19-21 should be allowable.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 11-14 and 18 are allowed.

****Request for Consideration of Previously Submitted IDSs****

1. Applicants mailed an IDS to the USPTO on **March 17, 2004**, but have not yet received an initialed copy of the IDS back, indicating consideration of the reference therein by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants are submitting a date stamped copy of this IDS, evidencing its receipt by the USPTO. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the reference cited therein and return to Applicants an initialed copy of this IDS.
2. Applicants submitted an electronic IDS on **September 28, 2004**, but have not received an initialed copy of the IDS back, indicating consideration of the references therein by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants are submitting a copy of the electronic IDS and an Acknowledgement Receipt from the USPTO, evidencing its receipt by the USPTO. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the references cited therein and return to Applicants an initialed copy of this IDS.

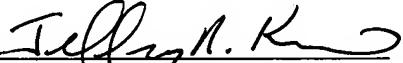
Conclusion

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 2, 2005

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